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Representation by Srimathi K. Savithriamma of Augiripalli regarding alleged death of her husband.

* 121 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a representation, dated 22nd August 1952, from Srimathi K. Savithriamma of Augiripalli, Krishna district, was received by the Government, complaining about the death of her husband during the Police enquiry on or about 12th August 1952 in respect of a theft case; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Even prior to the receipt of the representation, dated 22nd August 1952, the Subdivisional Magistrate, Nuzvid, on receipt of a telegram on the 13th August, promptly conducted an enquiry into the matter and himself inspected the dead body before post-mortem examination. He examined 26 witnesses in connexion with this matter and gave his considered finding that Konduri Satyanarayana committed suicide by consuming acid and that his death was not due to any police *lathi* charge. The post-mortem examination supported the finding and indicated that death was due to the rupture of the stomach on account of sulphuric acid poisoning.

" As a magisterial enquiry was held, no further action in the matter is called for."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know, Sir, where the post-mortem examination was conducted? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The post-mortem examination was conducted by the Civil Assistant Surgeon at Gannavaram."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the man was dead before he was taken to Gannavaram. According to the information in my possession the man was first taken to Nuzvid where the doctor was not found, but the man subsequently died and there was no post-mortem examination as such? If there was a post-mortem examination, might I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister if he will place the post-mortem examination report on the table of the House? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The hon. Member is referring to an incident on which I can throw little light at once. The Civil Assistant Surgeon, Nuzvid, who could have possibly given him medical assistance was not in Nuzvid as he was away at Bandar on court duty, and later the body was examined at Gannavaram after death. The question of his having been alive at some point does not relate to the post-mortem examination, I do not exactly understand what the hon. Member means."

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SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" ఈ చనిపోయిన వ్యక్తిని ఆ నాటి ఉదయం ఆరు గంటలకు పోలీసులు arrest చేశారు. మూడు గంటలవరకు దారుణంగా హింసించారు; అప్పుడు వదలిపెట్టారు. తిరిగి ఐదు గంటలకు arrest చేశారు. ఆ తరువాతనే ఆ వ్యక్తి పోలీసువారి చేతులలో చనిపోయాడు; ఇవేకదా యదార్థమైన విషయాలు?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The allegation now made is that the incidents have not been correctly represented and that some other version is true. If the hon. Member will kindly give me that version, I shall have the details examined, but so far as I know, what I have said is correct."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether a panchayat was held at Nuzvid and the panchayatdars in the presence of the village magistrate recorded their finding that the man died due to heavy and dangerous blows? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The inquest that the hon. Member refers to was held, but that was before the magisterial enquiry. The widow of the deceased had told them during the enquiry that her husband had told her that he had been beaten by the Police, but it was after that that the magistrate held the enquiry, and the *post-mortem* and the chemical examination were held."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question No. 122."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" I should like to request you, Sir, to allow a half-hour debate upon the question."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" There are so many instances like this, Sir."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I would like to submit to the House, Sir, that the verdict of the village panchayatdars should not disturb our minds when a magisterial enquiry with an examination of 26 witnesses was held subsequently and the *post-mortem* examination was held and a finding was arrived at, and subsequently the viscera and other things were sent for chemical examination and all these things confirmed the finding. I submit we must be content with that. In an old case like this, a debate in the House will not throw any further light on the question. It may be true that the villagers thought that he had been beaten to death, but as a matter of fact the action of sulphuric acid on the stomach is not a thing that can be hidden or covered or concocted. So, we must be content with the finding of the magistrate and the *post-mortem* examination. The Government are not prepared to submit to a half-hour debate in the House on this subject."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should submit to you that the facts given by the Hon. the Chief Minister are not at all convincing. We would certainly like to elicit some more information, but since you have passed on to the next question, I am not able to put any further supplementary questions.

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It would certainly serve the purpose of justice if you are pleased to allow a half-hour debate on this question, because there are more things which are still unanswered and there are so many matters of doubt that have to be cleared. There is no use the Hon. the Chief Minister saying that no purpose will be served by having a debate in this House after the magistrate has given a finding. I submit to you, Sir, every purpose will be served if at least one case is thoroughly examined on the floor of the House. Otherwise, it would serve as a bad encouragement to the Police."

MR. SPEAKER :—" As for the request of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, I must remind him that I have given enough time for this question. In case the hon. Member wants to have further information, I suggest to him to give notice of a separate question. It is not possible to have a half-hour debate, as we are going to rise at six o'clock."

Distribution of yarn to fishermen.

* 122 Q.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the procedure being adopted by the Government in the matter of supplying yarn for making nets by the fishermen?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" The Fisheries Department procures yarn to meet the requirements of fishermen in accordance with the monthly allotments made by the Director of Controlled Commodities from specified mills. These allotments are based on the monthly indents sent by the Fisheries Department. From the procured stocks, supplies are made to fishermen co-operative societies who are permitted to distribute the yarn to members as well as non-members. The Fisheries Department has also opened 30 depots at suitable centres for direct distribution of yarn to individual fishermen who are not members of co-operative societies.

" The distribution of yarn to fishermen is made both for mending old nets and for making new nets. Yarn supplied for the former purpose is sold at a subsidized rate in order to induce fishermen to bring back to use the nets in disrepair."

SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH :—" May I know, Sir, the rate of subsidy given for the yarn last year and the rate given this year? " 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Last year it was 25 per cent. This year it has been reduced to $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent, but the Director of Fisheries has made proposals to restore the old subsidy in view of the fact that the price of yarn has fallen down."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Question Hour is over. The answers to the remaining starred questions will be printed in the proceedings."